

**MONTANA WHEAT & BARLEY COMMITTEE
DON FAST TESTIMONY**

EXHIBIT 8
DATE 1/29/09
12

3 MAJOR PARTS OF BUDGET:

1. Research
2. Marketing
3. Transportation

RESEARCH

Decrease in Federal funding of research

We fund SW breeding program
WW breeding program
Barley breeding program

We need more public varieties

We need more crop rotation research

We need more sawfly research- example;

MW&B committee has been funding biological control of the wheat stem sawfly. Parasatoid releases have been made throughout the state. With more funding this program could be expanded.

MARKETING

In Montana We export 80% of our grain
We help develop and maintain export markets
We help discover new uses for grain

TRANSPORTATION

Captive market to the BNRR (variable cost over 300%) 180 % acceptable

BN fuel surcharge has become a profit center

Fewer delivery points creates more state truck traffic

This increase was instigated by the growers and producers, not by the committee

Bottom up, not top down

\$.02 on \$5 wheat is .004%

4/10 of 1 %

We are investing in our industry and its future.